

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 5, of the specification as follows:

An important characteristic of such unique phase-shifted writing is that the final bit transition sharpness and its "jitter" behavior (i.e., transition parameter or length) are primarily determined by the microstructure of the thicker granular (recording) layer. Stated ~~differently~~
differently, the strength of exchange coupling between the grains in the continuous ferromagnetic layer has little or no influence on the sharpness of the transition parameter of the granular ferromagnetic layer, since the magnetization reversal processes in each of the layers are substantially independent of each other, i.e., the inventive AFC-GC media can be considered as dynamically de-coupled.